RCE/ [handwritten]

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/651,323	
Filing Date: August 31, 2000	
First Named Inventor: Oscar Lee AVANT	
Group Art Unit: 2876	
Examiner: Ahshik KIM	
Attorney Docket Number: 8049.0010-00	
Attorney Customer Number: 22,852	

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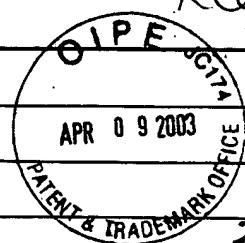
This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:

   a. ☐ Previously submitted

        i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on [Date] _____.

        ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on [Date] _____.

        iii. ☐ Other _____

   b. ☒ Enclosed:

        i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

        ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

        iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement

        iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

   a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of [number] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

   b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

   a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:

        i. ☒ $750.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

        ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (3 Months) $930.00

        iii. ☐ Other: _____

   b. ☒ Check in the amount of $1680.00 enclosed.

   c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

04/10/2003 YPOLITE1 00000015 09651323
01 FC:1801   750.00 OP

Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: Lionel M. Lavenue	Reg. No.: 46,859
Signature: *[signature]*	Date: April 9, 2003

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: N/A

Name:

Signature:	Date:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Oscar L. AVANT et al.) Group Art Unit: 2876
)
Application No.: 09/651,323) Examiner: Ahshik KIM
)
Filed: August 31, 2000)
)
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS)
FOR IDENTIFYING A MAILPIECE)
USING AN IDENTIFICATION)
CODE)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Final Office Action dated October 15, 2002, the period for

response being extended by the Petition for Extension of Time filed concurrently

herewith, the period for response thereby extended to April 15, 2003, Applicants file

herewith a Request for Continued Examination to submit this Amendment. Accordingly,

please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 18, 35, and 36 follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of identifying a plurality of mailpieces in a

mailpiece sorting system, using identification codes corresponding to identification files,

comprising the steps of:

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marking one of the plurality of mailpieces with an identification code that uniquely

corresponds to the one mailpiece on the back of the one mailpiece;

creating an identification file uniquely corresponding to the identification code and

the one mailpiece, where the identification file may be accessed from a plurality of

nodes on the mailpiece sorting system; and

using the identification code to retrieve identification information from the

corresponding identification file at a plurality of nodes on the mailpiece sorting system.

18.   (Twice Amended) A system for identifying a plurality of mailpieces in a

mailpiece sorting system, using identification codes corresponding to identification files,

comprising:

a marking component configured to mark one of the plurality of mailpieces with

an identification code that uniquely corresponds to the one mailpiece on the back of the

one mailpiece;

a creating component configured to create an identification file uniquely

corresponding to the identification code and the one mailpiece, where the identification

file may be accessed from a plurality of nodes on the mailpiece sorting system; and

a using component configured to use the identification code to retrieve

identification information from the corresponding identification file at a plurality of nodes

on the mailpiece sorting system.

35.   (Twice Amended) A system for identifying a plurality of mailpieces in a mailpiece sorting system, using identification codes corresponding to identification files, comprising:

means for marking one of the plurality of mailpieces with an identification code that uniquely corresponds to the one mailpiece on the back of the one mailpiece;

means for creating an identification file uniquely corresponding to the identification code and the one mailpiece, where the identification file may be accessed from a plurality of nodes on the mailpiece sorting system; and

means for using the identification code to retrieve identification information from the corresponding identification file at any node on the mailpiece sorting system.

36.   (Twice Amended) A computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for identifying a plurality of mailpieces in a mailpiece sorting system, the computer readable code comprising:

a marking module configured to mark one of the plurality of mailpieces with an identification code that uniquely corresponds to the one mailpiece on the back of the one mailpiece;

a creating module configured to create an identification file uniquely corresponding to the identification code and the one mailpiece, where the identification file may be accessed from a plurality of nodes on the mailpiece sorting system; and

a using module configured to use the identification code to retrieve identification information from the corresponding identification file at any node on the mailpiece sorting system.